

REQUEST FOR RECONSIDERATION

Applicants wish to thank Examiner Kruer for the discussions concerning the claimed invention and the pending rejections in the present Office Action. As discussed with Examiner Kruer, the Morishita reference was incorrectly relied on in the present Office Action for its teaching of the claimed ionomer. (See page 2, paragraph 1 of the present Office Action, which acknowledges that Applicants antedated the Morishita reference; and page 4, lines 12-21 of the present Office Action, which indicates that the Examiner relied on Morishita for its disclosure of ionomers).

As confirmed in the discussions with the Examiner, the rejection should not have been applied, since the Morishita is not available as prior art against the present application.

Applicants further note that there is no suggestion or description of the specifically claimed polyolefin copolymer resin molecular-associated by ion cluster in the newly applied, but not relied on, Nippon reference in the present Office Action.

Accordingly, withdrawal of the rejections under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) of Claims 1-6 and 9 as obvious over U.S. Patent No. 6,040,054 to Odashima et al. in view of Applicant's admissions and JP 11310757A to Miyauchi et al. ("Nippon"); Claim 7 further in view of U.S. Patent No. 5,950,468 to Shimizu et al., and Claim 10 further in view of U.S. Patent No. 6,015,855 to Dalton is requested.

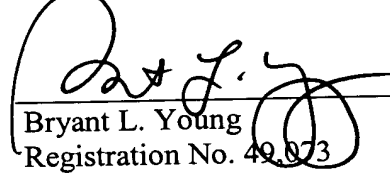
Applicants submit that this application is now in condition for allowance and early notification of such is earnestly solicited.

Application No. 10/698,519  
Reply to Office Action of June 7, 2006

Should the Examiner deem that any further action is necessary to place this application in even better form for allowance, the Examiner is encouraged to contact Applicants' undersigned representative at the below listed telephone number.

Respectfully submitted,

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